

ABSTRACT

PORTABLE DEVICE INTERACTION WITH BEACONS

5 A communications system comprises first (12) and second (14) beacon
devices capable of wireless message transmission and at least one portable
client device (15) capable of receiving such message transmissions. The
client device (15) is arranged to broadcast an inquiry message according to a
first communications protocol, such as Bluetooth. The first beacon (12) detects
10 such inquiry messages and replies with an inquiry response containing an
identifier for the second beacon (14), enabling the second beacon (14) and
client device (15) to perform a service interaction. In an alternative
embodiment (Fig.4) receipt of the inquiry message is notified to the second
beacon (14) which then sends the inquiry response to the client device (15).

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(Figure 3)